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Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1842.

Mr. McCLELLAN, of New York, asked leave to introduce at this time the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to report to this House whether Gen. Winfield Scott has been allowed extra compensation, in addition to his full pay and emoluments of office as a Major General of the army of the United States, for services rendered in the year 1838 in the removal of the Cherokee nation of Indians; and if extra compensation has been allowed, to report the amount thereof, and by what law or authority the same was granted. And that he be further requested to report the time when said claim for extra compensation was first presented to the War Department, and what action has been had thereon by any of his predecessors; and that he report to this House all the documents remaining in his Department in relation thereto.

Objection being made—

Mr. McCLELLAN moved that the rules of the House be suspended for the purpose of receiving and considering the resolution.

Mr. BREWSTER asked the yeas and nays; which were refused.

And the question "Shall the rules be suspended?" was taken and decided in the affirmative: Ayes 98, noes 45.

So the rules were suspended.

Mr. W. B. CAMPBELL moved to amend the resolution by adding thereto the words:

"And also all other cases of extra allowances made to other officers of the army since 1829."

Mr. McCLELLAN (being asked) declined to accept this form of amendment, as a modification of his own proposition.

Mr. McCLELLAN moved the previous question.

And the question recurring on the demand for the previous question—

Mr. MERIWETHER moved that the whole subject be laid on the table; but immediately withdrew the motion.

And the question again recurring on the demand for the previous question—

There was a second.

And the main question (being first on the amendment) was ordered to be now taken.

Mr. BOTTS suggested to Mr. CAMPBELL so to modify his amendment as to strike out the words "since 1829," that the inquiry might go back, and that it might be seen what extra allowances had been paid at any time.

Mr. CAMPBELL said he was willing to do so, and let the inquiry stand as a broad and general one.

Mr. BOTTS. Yes; let it include all cases; Gen. Jackson's among the rest.

The amendment was then so modified as to read—

"And also all other cases of extra allowances made to other officers of the army."

Mr. UNDERWOOD (addressing the Chair) desired to be informed how long it would take to get this information?

The SPEAKER. It is impossible for the Chair to answer.

And the question was then taken on the amendment as modified, and decided in the negative as follows: Yeas 81, nays 101.

So the amendment was rejected.

And the question recurring on the adoption of the resolution—

Mr. J. G. FLOYD asked the yeas and nays; which were ordered and taken: and (after some irregular conversation) the vote was announced as follows: Yeas 115, nays 23.

So the resolution was adopted.

Mr. W. B. CAMPBELL moved to reconsider the vote by which the resolution had been adopted, for the purpose of offering the following amendment to the resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War report to this House the names of such officers of the War Department, and of the army, including Paymasters and Governors of Territories, who have received extra allowance since the 3d of March, 1825; the time when received, the amount of the extra allowance paid to each, the service for which the extra allowance was claimed, and the authority under which it was made.

Mr. WATTERSON moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The yeas and nays were asked and refused.

And, after a brief conversation, the question on the motion to lay on the table the motion to reconsider the vote by which the resolution was adopted, was taken, and decided in the affirmative, without a division.

So the motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. BOTTS (no objection being made) offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to report to this House all cases in which extra compensation has heretofore been allowed to other officers of the army for services similar to those rendered by General Scott, for which he is said to have received extra allowance.

Mr. W. B. CAMPBELL moved to amend the resolution by striking out all after the word "resolved," and inserting the following:

That the Secretary of War report to this House the names of such officers of the War Department, of the army, including Paymasters and Governors of Territories, who have received extra allowance since the 3d of March, 1825; the time when received, the amount of the extra allowance paid to each; the service for which the extra allowance was claimed, and the authority under which it was made.

Mr. BOTTS said if the gentleman would strike out from the resolution the words "since the 3d of March, 1825," he would accept the amendment as a modification of his proposition. He (Mr. B.) had examined the law of 1835, and, in his opinion, it did not apply to the case. It had no more reference to it than the man in the moon.

Mr. CAMPBELL modified his proposition by striking out the words indicated.

And Mr. BOTTS accepted the amendment, as thus modified, as a modification of his own proposition, and moved the previous question.

After two or three suggestions of further amendment, none of which were accepted (or scarcely heard by the Reporter;)

The question on the demand for the previous question was taken, and there was a second.

And the main question (being on the adoption of the resolution) was ordered, and, being taken—

The resolution was adopted.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

FEBRUARY 9, 1842.

Mr. CLIFFORD, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bill:

A BILL to regulate the pay and emoluments of pursers and warrant officers in the navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all purchases of clothing, groceries, stores, and supplies of every description for the use of the navy, as well for vessels in commission as for yards and stations, shall be made with and out of the public moneys appropriated for the support of the navy, under such directions and regulations as may be made by the Executive for that purpose; and it shall not be lawful for pursers, or other officers, or persons holding commission or employment in the naval service, to procure stores or any other articles or supplies for, and dispose thereof to, the officers or to the crew, during the period of their enlistment, on or for their own account or benefit; nor shall any profit or per centage upon stores or supplies be charged to or received from persons in the naval service, other than those which are hereinafter prescribed.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Executive to provide such rules and regulations for the purchase, preservation, and disposition of all articles, stores, and supplies for persons in the navy, as may be necessary for the safe and economical administration of that branch of the public service.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That in lieu of the pay, rations, allowances, and other emoluments authorized by the existing laws and regulations, the annual pay of pursers shall be as follows, viz: when attached to vessels in commission for sea service, they shall receive, for ships of the line, four thousand dollars; for frigates or razees, and steamers of the first class, three thousand five hundred dollars; for sloops of war and steamers of the second class, two thousand five hundred dollars; for brigs and schooners, one thousand eight hundred dollars; on duty at navy yards, at Norfolk, Boston, New York, and Pensacola, three thousand five hundred dollars; at Portsmouth, Philadelphia, and Washington, and other stations within the United States, two thousand five hundred dollars; and in receiving vessels shall be allowed the pay as herein assigned to the class of vessels which may be so employed; on leave or waiting orders, the same pay as surgeons. And it is hereby expressly declared that the yearly pay provided in this act is all the pay, compensation, and allowance, that shall be received, under any circumstances, by pursers, except one ration each per day, when attached to vessels for sea service, and except also for travelling expenses, when under orders, for which ten cents per mile shall be allowed.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That nothing in this act contained shall be construed to affect the bonds which have heretofore been given by the pursers in the navy, but the same shall remain in full force and effect, as if this law had not been passed; and the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized and required to demand and receive from them, or any of them, new bonds, with sufficient sureties, in all cases in which he may consider the same necessary and expedient; and in case any purser shall neglect or refuse to give such new bond, it shall be the duty of the Executive to dismiss him forthwith from the service.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the rules and regulations which shall be made in conformity with the provisions of this act shall be laid before Congress at their next session.

Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall not be lawful for a purser in the navy to advance or loan any sum or sums of money, public or private, or any article or commodity whatever, or any credit, to any officer in the naval service, under any pretence whatever.

Sec. 7. *And be it further enacted,* That the provisions of this act shall go into effect within the United States from the date of its passage, and in vessels abroad at the beginning of the quarter after its official receipt.

Sec. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That pursers attached to, and doing duty in, navy yards, stations, and all vessels of a larger class than schooners, shall be authorized to appoint a clerk or assistant, to be approved by the commanding officer of such yard, station, or vessel; and the yearly compensation of said clerk shall be as follows, viz: of an assistant in a sloop of war, station, or steam frigate, five hundred dollars; in a frigate, or navy yard, or receiving vessel, six hundred dollars; in a ship of the line, eight hundred dollars. Said assistant or clerk shall have the privileges which are allowed to the clerk of the commanding officer; and each purser and clerk, while attached to vessels in commission, shall receive one ration per day.

Sec. 9. *And be it further enacted,* That all stores of pursers on board ships in commission shall be taken by the Government at a fair valuation, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy.

Sec. 10. *And be it further enacted,* That all acts or parts of acts which may be contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this act, shall be, and are hereby, repealed.

Sec. 11. *And be it further enacted,* That, from and after the passage of this act, the annual pay of the forward warrant officers of the navy of the United States shall be as follows: for boatswains and gunners, when on duty on board ships of the line, and in the three first-class navy yards, nine hundred dollars; on other duty, eight hundred dollars; for carpenters and sailmakers on board ships of the line, nine hundred dollars; when employed on board other vessels, eight hundred dollars; when on leave of absence or awaiting orders, the said officers shall receive five hundred dollars for the first ten years, and after, six hundred dollars.

FEBRUARY, 9, 1842.

Mr. WISE, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bill:

A BILL to authorize the appointment of a board for the preparation of rules and laws for the regulation and government of the navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy be authorized to appoint ten persons, to wit: two officers from each of the respective grades of captains, commanders, lieutenants, pursers, and surgeons, to be selected at his discretion from said ranks and orders, who shall assemble forthwith in the city of Washington, and shall constitute a board for the preparation of rules and laws for the regulation and government of the navy. The senior officer of the board who shall be present shall act as president thereof, and the board shall have authority to appoint a clerk, who shall be paid for his services five dollars per day. The members composing the board shall receive their travelling expenses in coming to, and returning from, the city of Washington, and also eight dollars per day, while they shall be engaged in the board, in addition to their pay in the naval service. They shall hold their meetings in some room of the southwest executive building, to be assigned to them by the Secretary of the Navy, and shall sit from day to day till their business shall be completed.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the said board shall have authority, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, to compile rules and regulations for the government of the navy, which shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Navy for his approval; and, if he shall approve thereof, he shall submit the same to the President of the United States for his approval; and, if he shall approve thereof, he shall

submit the same to Congress for its approval; and, for such additions thereto, and alterations therein, as may be deemed proper by Congress; and, when approved by Congress, the said rules and regulations shall be published, and shall have the force of law.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the expense of printing and publishing the said rules and regulations, and that the expenses of said board, shall be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

FEBRUARY 18, 1842.

Mr. MALLORY, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the following bill:

A BILL to regulate the pay of the clerks of the navy yards at Boston, New York, and Gosport, Va.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, from and after the passage of this act, the annual pay of the clerks of the navy yards at Boston, New York, and Gosport, Virginia, shall be twelve hundred dollars each, in lieu of all other pay and emoluments now allowed by existing laws or regulations.

FEBRUARY 22, 1842.

Mr. FESSENDEN, by leave of the House, submitted the following bill:

A BILL to determine the rank of professors of mathematics in the United States naval service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and required to grant commissions to the professors of mathematics in the naval service.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the said professors shall take rank next after captains, and shall be wardroom officers, and, as such, shall be entitled to all the privileges of the ward room.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That, from and after the passage of this act, professors of mathematics, in the naval service, shall receive, when on leave of absence, or waiting orders, the same pay as chaplains are now entitled to receive under like circumstances.

MISCELLANY.

For the Army and Navy Chronicle.

MACKINAC.

He whose infant mind first drew its sustenance from Webster's Spelling Book, may remember to have found in his intellectual pap, a hard, unimasticable nodule in the shape of MICHILIMACHIMACK. For our own part, we recollect the circumstance with the clearness of Bude light. There was a class of seven of us to whom it was propounded one afternoon, as an orthographical problem. Henry Adams solved it, and went to the head. But, when our learned teacher informed us that its pronunciation was simply and shortly, *Mackinaw*!—our ideas of orthoepy became so confused, that we have hardly been able to compose them fully at the present day.

MICHILLIMOCHINONG:—If the reader has any curiosity to learn the pronunciation of this polysyllable; let him make up his enunciatory organs for the purpose; then by a combined effort, half at speech and half at expectation; giving the syllables no quantity at all; hurrying them all into each other; half stifling the whole at the bottom of the esophagus, and then allowing it to escape, partly from the mouth and partly from the nose, and then he can form some idea of how it sounds in the vernacular. In ordinary English parlance, however, it is simply reduced, as our teacher said, to the more communicable word,

Mackinaw, the pronunciation of which is as patent as that of the ABabs. Some have even presumed to reduce it still farther, directing their letters to McNaugh; but this bold step would, we conceive, be liable to dangerous consequences, for it might, in course of time, lead etymologists to infer that there was originally some affinity existing between the Scotch and Chippewas.

And as it regards the etymology of the word, with respect to its application to the Island of Mackinac, there are, as on many other points equally important, two different opinions. One is, that the word Michilimackinac signifies Great Turtle; and the reason for this interpretation is thought to be not a little strengthened by the fact, that, to imaginative minds, the island may resemble, at certain points of view, a huge turtle afloat upon the water. The other opinion, on the contrary, (quite the contrary, we think,) is, that it means Giant Fairies, and the proof runs, that among the five thousand and odd islets of Lake Huron, Mackinac was one of the few held by the aborigines to be enchanted—tradition with them affirming, that often on moonlight nights, Giant Fairies could be seen, engaged in their odd freaks, upon the beach, trees and cliffs of that island. Which of the two is correct, we shall not pretend to say. While the French in their Canadian settlements, had not yet advanced beyond the lower lakes, their traders often received large quantities of furs from Indians, who said that they came from the country of Michilimackinac; meaning thereby, an extensive region about the confluence of Lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan.

In 1671, therefore, owing in a great measure to the exertions of Father Marquette, a Jesuit Missionary, a settlement was made by the French on the extreme northern point of Michigan. It took the name of Michilimackinac, and soon became the centre of a brisk fur trade.

Marquette, with an ardent zeal for the service of his temporal, as well as Heavenly King, prepared himself, while in Canada, for an extensive sphere of usefulness, by acquiring several of the Indian languages. He was sent in 1673 by the Governor of Canada, together with a Mons. Joliet, in search of that great river to the west, concerning which so many reports had been received from the Indians. He fitted out two small canoes for the expedition, and, with only six individuals besides himself, proceeded to the head of Green Bay. There, from the name given to that bay by the natives, (Salt Bay,) he spent some time exploring for salt springs; but finding none, he concluded that the name was given from a deposit of ooze and mud, whence he fancied arose vapors that produced violent thunder storms. The cause, however, of those storms, which still continue as frequent and violent as ever, is sufficiently explained by the peculiar situation of the country. We could not perceive that they had any relation to that mass of ooze and mud, except, perhaps, sweeping from its surface the cobwebs of disease, which it appeared every way well qualified to originate. The thunder gusts in that region which we witnessed, came down the bay; one of them at the rate of sixty miles an hour. But there does arise from that ooze and silt, a cloud, (as black as a thunder cloud,) a cloud of insects, that, in numbers, might compare with the locust hosts of Syria and Egypt. They also, like the thunder storms, probably subserve some hygienical purpose: at all events, the inhabitants of Green Bay enjoy good health, while the marshy country in their vicinity would seem to be highly insalubrious. The insect is an innocent, winged animal about an inch in length, called the Green Bay Fly. It has an ephemeral existence, making its appearance at three several times during the summer, and in such myriads as to cover the roof of a building some times to the depth of two feet with their dead carcasses. Soon after alighting upon any object, they are seen to tremble

as if in an ague fit; they then cast their sloughs, and probably die. But to return to Marquette, the founder of Mackinac.

He continued his journey from Green Bay, up Fox river, down the Wisconsin, discovered the Mississippi, and followed its course as far as lat. 34°, when, being satisfied that the Mississippi neither emptied into the Atlantic nor Gulf of California, as had been variously supposed, but into the Gulf of Mexico, he retraced a part of his route, returning by the way of the Illinois river to Chicago. There, he subsequently took up his residence as a missionary among the Miamies. On going thence to Mackinac in 1675, and while coasting along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, or *Lacus Magnus Algonquiorum*, as it was sometimes styled, he entered a river, where he had the presentiment he should then die. After landing and erecting a little altar, upon which he offered up the acceptable sacrifice of a good man's prayers, he withdrew a short distance, requesting his boatmen not to disturb him for half an hour. That time having elapsed, he was sought, and found dead. The river from this circumstance took his name, which it now bears. His remains were removed about a year afterwards to old Mackinac, where he now lies—his only monument the ruins of the town which he had founded.

This town continued a busy trading establishment under the French, for upwards of half a century. At the close of hostilities of the old French and Indian war in 1760, it was transferred to the English, and finally confirmed in their possession by the peace of Paris in 1763. But though peace had been made, the war on the part of the English was not yet at an end. The third belligerent party, the Indians, had had no voice in the treaty.

The sons of Shem and Ham always prefer the French to the English. The Indians loved the one and hated the other. When, therefore, they saw their "good fathers," as they called the French, dispossessed by a people whom they did not like, they resolved to continue the war, not only with the purpose of avenging the cause of their injured friends, but also to drive an unwelcome aggressor from their own lands. Pontiac, an Ottawa chief, was the soul of the hostile tribes. By means of a native eloquence, and a just cause for calling it forth, he gradually prepared a number of various tribes to act like muscled to the will, with the plan of directing a simultaneous attack upon all the enemy's posts on the frontier. Of these there were twelve, extending from Pittsburg to Green Bay, and in one day nine of them were utterly destroyed, Mackinac among the number.

The fort, a stockade work enclosing an area of two acres, and touching the Straits of Mackinac, contained a garrison of between ninety and one hundred men, besides about thirty French families who were engaged in the fur trade. The Sacs and Chippewas, to whom the duty of its destruction was consigned, commenced their operations by a grand ball play. Many of the unsuspecting troops, understanding that the game was for a high wager, and that it would consequently be very animated, were out looking on. The ball was driven within the pickets, and followed by the Indians. Henry, the traveller, was then at the post, engaged in writing letters by a canoe which was just ready to leave for Montreal. Hearing an unusual uproar, he looked out at his window, and saw his countrymen falling and struggling on all sides beneath the tomahawks of the infuriated savages. He hurried to the house of a Frenchman of his acquaintance, and claimed protection; but the Frenchman, who stood eyeing the bloody scene, thought it best to profess neutrality. An Indian woman, however, showed him up into a garret, where, after witnessing through a chink in the wall all the horrors of the massacre, he hid himself in a dark corner behind some moccasins, (vessels of birch bark for containing maple sugar,) expecting every moment to be

discovered and butchered. Presently several Indians entered and groped about, sometimes passing him so closely that he feared the beating of his heart would betray him. But, they fortunately gave up the search, and he ultimately effected his escape. Mackinac had thus received its death blow. After Pontiac's war, in 1766, some Scotch merchants from Canada established a post and factory upon the island, eight or ten miles to the eastward of the former site. Old Mackinac was gradually abandoned by its French inhabitants, and nothing now remains of it but a few heaps and ridges of earth, with here and there a stump of an old picket, showing where—*Troja fuit*.

Bark houses and log houses, tenements designed to shelter the builders while acquiring a fortune in the fur trade, soon rose in regular streets upon the enchanted island. Hundreds of conical wigwams of fur-bringing Indians appeared and disappeared from day to day, along the crescent beach of the harbor. Busy canoes glided to and fro in unison to the Canadian boat songs, and, in short, the new town showed all the life and animation of a young and growing empire. It was, in miniature, another very Venice; its traffickers bringing the sumptuous productions of the east, such as beads, red cloths and blue, rum, looking-glasses, knives, rifles, tobacco, powder, lead, pipes, to distribute them among the barbarous people of the west.

The commanding officer of the post, besides his military sway, held also a kind of civil jurisdiction. He could grant lands and solemnize marriages. We have before us a record, showing that on the 15th of November, 1791, "Edward Charleton, Esq., Captain in his Majesty's 5th Regiment, and commander of the post of Michillimackinac and dependencies," did join in the bands of wedlock, one of his subalterns with a daughter of the Surgeon of the post. The bride was a half breed—her mother Indian. What her age was does not appear; neither should we have any curiosity to know, except for ascertaining at what time those early marriages that are now so common in Mackinac, first came in vogue. It is said concerning the marriage of one girl, that she was called in from playing with her fellows in the streets, to be dressed for her wedding. The principles of physiology appear to be held in perfect contempt. Indian and half breed girls frequently marry at the age of 15, 14, 13 years, and for aught we know, with impunity; but the white girl who enters the married life at such an early age, must not be disappointed to find her cup of matrimonial bliss turbid with the dregs of affliction and regret.

Several years after the independence of the United States had been acknowledged, and her boundaries established, in 1796, Mackinac was formally delivered up to the Americans, and in the September of that year, the striped bunting proclaimed there for the first time, the dominion of a new power. Col. Burbeck, with two companies of United States troops, Artillery and Infantry, received the fort, an old picket work, from the British commander, and immediately commenced the foundations of the present fortification, which after the labor of five years, was finally completed as it now stands. Its walls, a combination of stone work and cedar pickets with block houses, are thrown about, here and there, upon the crest of a cliff that rises to the height of 150 feet directly above the town. Vauban had established the fact, that any fortress could be actually taken, whether in the vicinity of some commanding eminence or not. It was not without reason, therefore, that several old forts in America, were located at the bottom of hills, instead of their tops. Just in rear of Fort Mackinac, the island rises to a point 150 feet higher, whence cannon balls and shells would take an impulse of themselves to leap into the garrison. The site of the fort would subserve all the purposes of peace very well, but we shall see how it answered those of war.

In 1812, Lieut. Hanks had command of the fort,

with a single small company. He arose one fine morning, being, as usual, under the firm persuasion that North America, at least, was then enjoying a profound peace. But on casting his eyes up to the heights above him, how great his astonishment to find them, not peacefully smiling under the first rays of the sun as he expected, but frowning with all the sternest features of war—artillery, red coats, and a host of hostile savages! Nay, those saturnine gentlemen were seen in every direction, rifle on shoulder, approaching the fort as coolly as if they were coming to a payment instead of a massacre. The Garrison was so much surprised, that even the iron growlers in the blockhouses forgot to bark. The Lieutenant had thirty or fifty brave men to defend an untenable post—he surrendered. Captain Roberts, at the head of a motly thousand of regulars, volunteers and Indians, had landed on the island during the night, and gained possession of the hill before the garrison knew that war had been declared. Thus again was Mackinac in the possession of the British. On the eminence commanding the fort, they threw up some intrenchments, which from a lamented American officer, now bear the name of Fort Holmes.

After the battle of the Thames, in 1814, about two thousand troops, under Col. Croghan, embarked on board a fleet commanded by Captain Arthur Sinclair, for the purpose of re-taking Mackinac. The fleet hove in sight of the island, and spent a fortnight in reconnoitering and standing off and on, waiting the return of a detachment that had been sent under Major Holmes to the Sault Sainte Marie, in order to destroy some property there belonging to the enemy. At the time when the fleet first appeared before the fort, the garrison was small, consisting, it is said, mostly of invalids, and many of them were on the main land, procuring forage for the winter. There were, moreover, but a few Indians on the Island, and it is believed that had the summons been immediately given, the post would have been surrendered. During the delay, however, runners were sent out by the enemy into the surrounding country, and day after day, canoe loads of Indians and volunteers could be seen moving towards the island.

Finally, being rejoined by Major Holmes and his command, the fleet stood round to the western shore of the island, at the termination of a road that led through a rough country about two miles up to the fort. There, under a heavy discharge from the guns of the vessels, the troops debarked, formed and commenced the march; the regulars under Major Holmes on the right of the road; two regiments of militia under a militia officer on the left; the Colonel and staff at the centre. They proceeded through bad bushments, and over worse ground, for about half a mile, when the road becoming guarded by the enemy's artillery, advantageously posted, and most of the officers of the right wing, Major Holmes among them, having been shot by Indians in the thicket; a retreat was judged necessary; it was ordered—executed; the troops regaining their shipping, and the shipping withdrawing from the island. At the conclusion of peace Mackinac was restored to the United States.

It is not, we believe, a characteristic of a Republican form of Government, certainly not of ours, to carry out its measures energetically to a full and perfect completion. After two wars, we still have 2 or 3 boundary questions to settle with a baggling power. Our army and navy are two uncouth, unlicked cubs that will "get lick'd" perhaps, from abroad one of these days. Even the efforts which have been made for their improvement of late years, have been suspected of only political motives. They have suffered for the last twelve years, from the general defaultance that has come upon every department of government; and, the government, like the a differential thermometer one bulb immersed in politics at a fever heat—the mercury compressed into the other, shows

a coolness and disregard for the welfare of the country. Politics are the strange gods that we have run after ever since emerging from the wilderness of the Revolution; they are the gods that "do not profit." But enough of this; we are not a great statesman, and we can safely promise with Powers in the play that we never will be. We wish merely in making these slashing remarks to preface the fact, that from the year 1796, when Mackinac was first delivered to the United States, until 1816, the lucrative fur trade of which it was the mart, was allowed to remain almost entirely in the possession of British merchants. Their operations for a part of that time are supposed to have exceeded \$300,000 a year. The reader can judge, when he learns that the duties on goods which they imported in canoe bottoms alone, for the fur traffic, have amounted to upwards of \$50,000 annually—the goods being exchanged for furs, not seldom at the rate of 3000 per cent. profit.

In 1816 Congress passed a law that enabled the American Fur Company, in the year following, to commence its operations free from foreign competition. Mackinac became its principal post. Trade continued brisk as it had done for nearly a century and a half—But at last, the fur animals, like the shades of night at the approaching sun, have gradually retired before the advance of population, and Mackinac, as a trading post, has now finally lost its importance. The value of all the furs collected there annually, both by the company and private dealers, does not probably exceed \$25,000. These are collected from other posts of the company; by pedlers who are sent out by private traders during winter, with packs of goods upon their shoulders to glean among the surrounding Indians, and a few among the Indians themselves. There occurs in connection with the fur trade, the following anecdote.

Not many years since, some men in Ohio learned that there were islands about a hundred miles south of Mackinac in Lake Michigan, by the name of Manitoes; and that these islands being esteemed by the natives as the residence of evil spirits, as their name itself imports, no Indian in consequence dared, or ever had dared to go any where near them. They therefore concluded that beavers, otters, martins had congregated there in undisturbed increase and multiplication from the beginning of the world. One had only to land, they imagined, and ply his club, to knock a fur animal on the head at every blow. They resolved to make their fortune at a single turn of the wheel. Fitting out a schooner, they embarked, and late in the season arrived at Mackinac, where they made known the object of their expedition. The inhabitants endeavored to dissuade them from it, with the assurance, that those islands had never so abounded with furs as was conceived, and even if they had, they would long since have been swept by the Mackanites themselves. But the Ohioans saw in this advice only an artful stratagem, intended to forestall them in the acquisition of those valuable furs, of whose existence they were now more fully persuaded than ever. They therefore hastened to raise sail, in order to reach the scene of intended operations as soon as possible. But, as if opposed by a legion of incensed Manitoes, they encountered a violent gale, that drove them from their course, and finally threw them upon an unknown coast. Forsaking their vessel, they succeeded after various adventures and hardships in again reaching Mackinac. There they passed the winter at their trades, shoemaking, chairmaking, and, on the reopening of navigation, regaining their schooner, and being convinced at last, of the futility of any further prosecution of their voyage, returned to their homes, with greater disappointment if not glory, than the roaring Argonauts from the search of the golden fleece.

Tyre, Sidon, Amalfi, through whose streets commerce, like an active heart, once propelled the busy tide, are now fishing towns—and so is Mackinac. The

French part of the population is supported, in a great measure, by fishing. Nets, about four feet in width, and two or three hundred feet long, are sunk to the bottom of the straits of Mackinac, between the island and main land of Michigan. In the space of twenty-four hours, 30, 40, 300, or so, white-fish, run their heads into the meshes, and are then drawn out by the gills. Trout are thus sometimes caught by the teeth, weighing seventy pounds. This fish occurs of all sizes, from that of the minnow up to the weight last given. We have seen them in wells, two or three years together, when they did not appear to grow much: hence it follows, as clear as day, that the trout in the great lakes are as old as the lakes themselves. The white-fish, say the Indians, had its origin from a woman's brains; and besides being a delectable fish, it has the reputation of being efficacious in the inception of pledges of affection.

When a wind sets through the straits for a long time in one direction, the water in consequence sets back in a strong current in the other; and if the wind still continue to blow hard, a high sea is raised. Under such circumstances three fishermen went out, last fall, (1840,) to set their nets. Their little boat, in rising a large impetuous wave, was upset, and the fishermen were scattered in the water. Their priest, who happened to be standing on the shore, sent them free absolution, for he believed death to be inevitable; but just then, a birch canoe, containing a family of Indians, approached under a full lug sail, riding over those huge waves as unconcerned as a duck in a mill-pond. They saw the accident, and dousing their sail, hove to and rescued the drowning men. This incident is related to show the qualities of the birchen canoe. It is made by sewing broad strips of birch bark upon a frame of lithe ribs and gunwales, and paying the seams with pitch. Being light and elastic, they outlive a sea that might either swamp a stronger boat, or stave it in pieces. On mounting to the top of a billow, under a full square sail and a fresh breeze, they shoot forward thence with the velocity of an arrow, or locomotive at least.

The Indians in the vicinity of Mackinac are the Chippewas and Ottawas. They receive annual "payments" from the United States, and "presents" from the British. Indians repair sometimes from the distance of a thousand miles, to the Manitouline islands, near the eastern shore of Lake Huron, where the presents are distributed. Fifty or a hundred families rendezvous at Mackinac on their way, and thence set out in a fleet—a Chippewa fleet, like butterflies in a puddle. In 1836 they treated away their lands in consideration of certain payments, which are now made to them every year at the agency or the island. A great number assemble on those occasions, displaying the various tokens of friendship—blankets, brass kettles, trinkets, which they have but just received from her politic Majesty, Victoria. The old town then dreams again of the bustle and activity of former years; but the Indians soon retire to their homes; the crowd of petty traders whom they had attracted, to theirs; the streets are deserted, and the dream is at an end.

When an Indian goes to Mackinac to trade, to sell his maple sugar or furs, or when he goes for pleasure, he not only takes his household with him, but his house too. He lands, and drawing ten or dozen poles from his canoe, he plants them in the circumference of a circle at the water's edge; ties them together at the tops, covers them with mats woven of rushes, a fire is kindled in the centre, the canoe drawn from the water, the furniture arranged, and then, he is too generally ready to unite with his family in one common debauch. We passed a group of seven or eight wigwams one night, the inmates of which were all drunk. Old and young, women and children, were giving a loose to all the passions that have a name, and some that have not—singing, fluting, groaning, snarling, laughing, wailing, shouting, and

so on. As the fires gleamed upon their inebriate visages, we had, without doubt, a finer view of the infernal regions than the muse of ever a poet in the world. We fancied—(we had been thrumming a piano)—we fancied that that was a huge piano before us; human passions and emotions for strings, and reeling intoxication playing away upon the keys—a voluntary to his own liking.

"Der Mensch wird alt, und der Mensch wird jung,
Die Welt hat nimmer Verbesserung."

Which means, in this case, that, after two centuries of intercourse with the whites, the Chippewa is no better—than he should be. A great outlay of missionary funds was once made at Mackinac, in the erection of a church and seminary; but these buildings are now entirely abandoned. The American missionary goes to Greece, Africa, India; he goes to the South seas, where he labors like the madrepores, to rise above the sea of sin and wickedness, that overwhelms him, while his red brother at home is left without even the oil of Christian kindness, to soothe the wounds inflicted by a humane Government. The child may fondle with the cockatrice, and twine its fingers in the lion's mane, but the Indian can't be civilized!

Of all the mineral or terrene substances, there is none of more general use and requirement in the economy of nature, than lime. In whatever form or composition it occurs, in the pearl of the oyster, or in the no less beautiful girl; in the pearl of the goat's stomach; in the unnumbered variety of shells, bones, corals; in the alabaster stalactite, crystals, mountains of marble, caverns in seeming imitation of palaces and temples; in fine, whether in matter organic or inorganic, it ever seems to evince the same kind of whimsical intelligence, that delights alike the eye of the child and the philosopher. The little island of Mackinac (about seven miles in circumference) is a mass of lime rock, and of course has its curiosities. The northern shore of the island is a high bluff, through which there is a NATURAL ARCH. You look down through it upon a pleasant scene of trees, rocks, and water, some two hundred feet below. Tradition, like an old cicerone, eager for a sixpence, starts up and informs you that a lady once walked across that arch—a feat, it appeared to us, of which she might as well boast as for turning a sunset. SKULL CAVE is a hole in a rock where a number of skulls and snakes were once found, and tradition there, too, tells you, that Henry was concealed in it after the massacre at Old Mackinac, by an Indian who adopted him as a brother. The SUGAR LOAF is a conical mass of lime rock, rising abruptly from the plain, and towering above the surrounding woods. A few stunted cedars and shrubs grow from its sides. Our eyes once happened to alight upon its peak above the trees, just when it was reflecting the purplish hue of night-fall. We were struck by the imposing aspect of the thing—lone, solitary, emulating, in a small way, the grandeur that sits enthroned so majestically on the horns and needles of the twilight Alps.

Mackinac too, like many other places, has the finest point of view in the world. This is from Fort Holmes, the highest point of the island. Miss Martineau was obliged to confess there, that however much she felt herself called upon to condemn the Republicans for their breakfasts, she found nature in America at least, as far beyond censure as in England. The good taste of Nature is so well established however, that it would be dangerous to question it any where; even if she should not be robed in fogs. But the view is indisputably a fine one: you are there at midnight in the month of July. The full moon, hanging low in the south, seems tired with her long journey, to enlighten the scene. Her solitary glimmer is far distant upon the waste of surrounding waters; the islands and main land are dimly seen under her misty light, that falls flickered among the frondiferous woods about you; the aspen leaf is as motionless as the wind-

ing sheet of the grave; all is still and silent as if the first Sabbath had not yet been disturbed: you hear nothing but the pulsations of your heart; the whizzing of the wings of fairies as they crack their jokes about your mortal ears, and the pattering of the moon beams as they fall upon your hat. But go there at night in December and every thing is changed: one might be pardoned the belief that he was upon another planet. Winter is wrapped in a dark, streaming mantle of tattered clouds: a gale from the lake comes roaring up the leafless and snow-clogged woods, like some monster to which the most unbounded stretch of mythological fancy, has given neither attributes nor shape.

The town, or rather village of Mackinac, in the township of Holmes, contains between five and six hundred souls. It is built upon a narrow belt of land nearly a mile long, extending between a circular harbor on one side, and a high ridge on the other. It is far in the wilderness, communicating with the world only once a month during winter, and then by a mail borne upon dog sleds and the shoulders of Indians through the wilds of Michigan. In summer, however, a steam boat stops to breathe there every other day. It is, nevertheless, far withdrawn from the world: the most inveterate enemies of mankind from roaming up and down, seldom extend their peregrinations so far. Politics and tourists, on the contrary, shew themselves there as readily as if by rail road. Captain M. appeared in the guise of one of the characters of Snarleyyou; Mrs. Jamesson, in that of an elegant authoress, and two or three French Counts and German Barons, in that of murderers, of the Queen's English. One of them wished to be introduced to the Chippewa Chiefs, as a white chief from the other side of the big pond. He wished probably to commence a series of negotiations with them, that would result to the benefit of his master, the Emperor of Austria. A Chippewa had been educated in Italy by the Catholics, and he might have suggested to them, or more likely they to him, a grant of lands from his tribe for religious purposes. His grant could be under Austrian influence, and who knows that a vigorous shoot from the House of Austria, might take root, grow and increase in America, as the old stock had done in Europe? Such at all events, is said to have been the object of the Austrian Ambassador's mission to Mackinac. The United States must look out for Austria!

The population of Mackinac, consists of Americans, Canadian French, Indians and crosses of course between them all. The Canadian Frenchman is the same being who left Normandy for America, two hundred years ago. Although the sun of civilization is high and fills the land with light, he still clings to the shadows of the institutions of the dark ages. His implements and utensils are, many of them, the same in construction as those which were obtained by his ancestors from the Goths and Romans. He still possesses too, all the Gallic suavity of manners, fondness for pleasure and disregard for the morrow. A drachm of his blood will gallicise an Indian—set him bowing and scraping. While the winter wind is making music among the loose barks of his time worn tenement without, the passer by may be surprised to hear from within the notes of festive music as it were from the tombs. The master of the hut has been engaged all day, perhaps, with the dog team in procuring a load of fuel from the woods; his family finished their last loaf and fish for supper; he has made the utmost of his credit to get a jug of whiskey, and now, while his last brand lies smouldering upon the hearth; while his last candle in unison with his own smiles is lighting the midnight room; he and his friends are winding through the pleasant mazes of the dance, without even the ghost of a troublesome thought to haunt him of the morrow. Hospitable is he, as misery herself. He is, in some respects, like the Minorcan of Florida. There are, in fact, several points of resemblance in

common between Mackinac and St. Augustine. The general appearance of the two towns; their situations with regard to the harbors; their public buildings; their mixed population—are features of striking likeness, and when one in the streets of Mackinac, hears a shaver in his little cutter, cry out to his dogs in tandem, cr-r-rapo! the delusion for the moment is complete; not that boys drive such teams in St. Augustine, but one's ears are saluted there at every turn from some Minorcan mouth, with the astonishing exclamation, Caraho!

Mackinac has no theatre, no opera, no museum. Jugglers, posture-makers, sometimes put up their bills there, and mayhap some stray genius spouts Shakspeare; but they do not draw remarkably full houses, and even that greatest of jugglers the northern lights, is not very popular. The exhibition of one of these which we attended at Mackinac, gave us great pleasure. A quadrant's extent of the northern heavens was all in motion. Long, vivid coruscations streamed up to the zenith. Light caught, here and there, over the whole field of operations. A roll of luminous clouds in form of those driven before the first puff of a thunder-gust, moved slowly up from the apparent source of the phenomenon. A flash in the horizon: again, higher up; once more, and it vaulted to the top of the heavens. Coruscations at the same time would shoot up in rapid succession from east to west, running suddenly through all the changes of the prismatic spectrum as they went, producing an effect on the eye, like a sweep of the harp's chords upon the ear. We drew out our compass, to see how it would be affected; but that "trembling vassal of the pole" was as unmoved as a philosopher.

Embarking now at Chicago or Detroit, to sail by the way of the upper lakes, and after passing through a wild of woods and water, the stranger is perhaps surprised to find himself in view of old Mackinac. Vessels are lying at anchor in the harbor—he sees the white buildings and walls of the fort on the heights above—the national flag spread out upon the blue heavens—the bright bayonet of the sentinel, twisting locks from Phœbus's hair, and tossing them down to the lake below. The water is clear, the air pure, and the repose, perhaps, inviting. If he can find lodgings at Mr. Lasley's, let him land. Let him take his children out to the beach, forget his cares, and throw pebbles into the waves—those murmuring waves, that upon those idle pebbles, now nightly lull old Mackinac to sleep. Q.

From the National Intelligencer.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.

It is asked of the committee who reported the bill for augmentation of the Marine Corps, if they know, or if Congress can tell, what duties are to or do pertain to the higher grade of field rank, (that of Brigadier General,) as also to the other field rank in the Corps, while subject, as they are and have been since June, 1834, to the rules and regulations for the government of the Navy, in which there is nothing applicable to their government, discipline, or instruction for military duty and purposes, as intended by its first creation in 1798.

Subject, as the Corps now is, to the rules and regulations for the government of the Navy, let those who legislate refer back to the report of the Secretary of the Navy to Congress in December, 1831, from which the following are extracts:

"But by placing this establishment, [Marine Corps,] as in former years has been proposed, wholly under navy discipline and laws, most of the difficulties might in my opinion be obviated, all the benefits of it to the service be retained, its increase in numbers rendered unnecessary, its old associations preserved, and much greater harmony and energy inspired into its operations, without derogating at all from the respectability of the corps." "Should the system recommended in

the document annexed [C. No. 12] be fully adopted, the saving is estimated at over \$40,000 annually."

Document C is from the Navy Commissioner's Office, October 25, 1841, and the following is an extract: "If the Marine Corps were fully incorporated with the Navy, and subject always to its discipline and laws, without being charged with any functions other than such as have a direct relation to the Navy, then the existing law organizing it as a distinct corps, liable to do duty either on shore or on board ship, would require such modifications as would adapt it exclusively to such service." "Its duties on shore would be confined to the navy yards, and would then be performed under the superintending direction of the senior officer in command; of whose command it would form a competent part, precisely as do detachments on board ships form part of the crews of such ships; and these act as may be required of them by the commanders of such ships." "Such an organization would preclude the necessity of investing any individual with the general command of the corps; and the staff, essential to it, when viewed strictly as a military body, would become unnecessary, since all its functions would be performed by officers having similar duty to perform in the Navy." "For its skill and preparation for service, the officers of the respective detachments would be as competent as are now the officers of ships to their appropriate commands."

"Such considerations have guided the commissioners in preparing the information now submitted."

JOHN RODGERS."

Thus may be seen the present wants and requirements of the Marine Corps, since by the act of June 30, 1840, it has been divested of its military character and government, by being made subject at all times to the rules and regulations for the government of the Navy, instead of the rules and articles of war when on shore, as was the case from its first organization in 1793 down to the act of June 30, 1834. Under those applicable laws was all its military efficiency and utility acquired, and without such experience, sad and useless would be its present condition, with no other code of laws and regulations to refer to than those for the government of the Navy.

With those views from the Navy Department, and the change of the laws of government by the act of June 30, 1834, in accordance thereto, what occasion now for any increase of field rank or of the staff, and what are the appropriate duties or responsibilities pertaining to the field rank now in the corps? Has the Colonel Commandant authority to detail a sergeant's guard even from any of the forts or stations on shore when required by the Navy Department for sea service? Or has he now authority to call for such reports from the Marine officers commanding at the several Marine stations as to what duties are required of the marines within the navy yard, that he may know where detachments can be best taken for sea service when required?

Let inquiry be had, and if a military character is to be continued in the Marine Corps, then it should be restored to the operation of the military laws of the country, under which all its discipline and efficiency has been acquired.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

PENSACOLA, Feb. 19.—On Monday last arrived here, ten days from Vera Cruz, the French corvette, La Brillante, Captain Regnard. We learn that she is here for a few days only. A salute was fired and returned at the navy yard when the corvette entered our harbor, and another in honor of the broad pendant of Commo. Wilkinson after her arrival off the town. On Tuesday the officers waited on the civil authorities of our city. They seem to be in fine health, and we learn that in spite of the inhospitable climate in which they have lately spent their time, the crew are also in good health. This is the first visit of La Brillante to our waters.—*Gazette*.

REVOLUTIONARY TIMES.—The following account of the Battle of the Great Bridge, December 9th, 1775, is taken from an English magazine of 1776.

"To obstruct the designs of the rebels, and protect the well affected, Lord Dunmore took possession of a post called the Great Bridge, which lay at twelve miles distance from Norfolk, and was a pass of great consequence, being the only way by which they could approach to that town. Here he constructed a fort on the Norfolk side of the bridge, which he furnished well with artillery, and rendered as defensible as the time would admit. Notwithstanding the loyalty of the people in this quarter, which included two counties, it does not appear that his force was at all considerable, either as to the number or quality; he had, indeed, two hundred regulars, including the grenadiers of the 14th regiment and a body called the Norfolk volunteers.

The rebels, under the command of a Colonel Woodford, fortified themselves also, within less than cannon shot of our people; they had a narrow causeway in their front, which must be passed to come at their works, so that both parties seemed pretty well secured from surprise.

In this state they continued quiet on both sides for some days, until at length a design was formed, for surprising the enemy in their entrenchments. This was undertaken before day light.

Capt. Fordyce, at the head of his grenadiers, amounting to about 60, led the attack. They boldly passed the causeway, and marched up to the entrenchments with fixed bayonets, and with a coolness and intrepidity, which first excited the astonishment, and afterwards the praise of their enemies; for they were not only exposed naked to the fire in front, but enveloped by another part of the works.

The brave captain, with several of his men, fell; the lieutenant, with others, were taken, and all the survivors of the grenadier company, whether prisoners or not, were wounded.

The fire of the artillery from the fort enabled our people to retire without pursuit, as well as to carry off many of their dead and wounded. It has been said that we were led into this unfortunate affair, through the designed false intelligence of a pretended deserter, who was tutored for the purpose; however, that may be, it was grievous that such uncommon bravery should be squandered to no purpose.

Capt. Fordyce was interred with every military honor by the victors, who showed due respect to his former merit, as well as the gallantry which signalized his last moments. The English prisoners were treated with great kindness; the Americans who had joined the King's standard, with equal rigor. In this engagement we are said to have had 129 killed, 175 wounded, and 40 of our men made prisoners.

Lord Dunmore, with the remainder of his forces, retired from the post at the Great Bridge the ensuing night, without any other loss than a few pieces of cannon and some trifling stores which they left behind."

LITTLE ROCK, Arks., Feb. 16.—Robert Wilkins, the man who was shot some time since, in the Cherokee country, near Fort Gibson, by Lieut. Wickliffe of the United States army, we learn, is dead, and Lieut. W. has made his escape. He had been arrested, but it only amounted to a suspension from duty, as an officer. This, we fear, will give cause of complaint to the Indians, who certainly have a right to expect that white persons committing homicides in their country, should be dealt with in the same manner as Indians committing similar offences against white persons. Justice shows no distinction to the persons or conditions of men.—*Gazette*.

The complaint against Ex-Paymaster Herring, of misappropriation of the public moneys, for which he is under bonds for \$20,000, has, we understand, been thrown out by the Grand Jury.—*New York American*.

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WASHINGTON CITY,

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1842.

At a Naval Court martial, held on board the U. S. ship Decatur, on the Coast of Brazil, in Nov. 1841, Passed Midshipman GOUGH W. GRANT, was tried upon charges of "Disobedience of Orders," "Refusal to do duty," and "Disrespect," found guilty, and sentenced to be suspended from duty for one year, on half pay. The sentence has been approved by the Secretary of the Navy, except so much of it as deprives Passed Mid. GRANT of a portion of his pay, which is remitted.

Mr. GRANT has since arrived in the United States.

Correspondence of the Army and Navy Chronicle.

FORT FANNING, E. F. Feb. 24, 1842. A detachment of the 7th infantry and 2d dragoons is about to take the field for an indefinite period. We shall have 250 men, mounted and foot, and rendezvous on the 1st March in Cook's hammock, one of the largest in Florida; we are afterwards to form a junction with Col. VOSE, of the 4th infantry, *some where* in Middle Florida. The officers belonging to this detachment are—

Major J. S. NELSON, 7th infantry, commanding. Lieut. F. Britton, 7th infantry, Acting A. Q. M. Surgeon John B. Wells. Captains E. S. Hawkins, W. Seawell, G. J. Rains, and R. H. Ross, of the 7th infantry.

Captain S. B. Thornton, 2d dragoons. Lieuts. T. B. Arden, P. D. Geisse, J. R. Scott, C. H. Humber, 7th infantry; and Lieuts. O. P. Ransom and W. Steele, 2d dragoons.

I will give you the particulars on our return.

[It does not appear from the above letter, that the war is yet ended.—*Editor.*]

A board of Naval Surgeons will convene in Philadelphia, on Monday the 4th April, for the examination of such Assistant Surgeons for promotion, and of candidates for admission into the navy as Assistant Surgeons, as shall be authorized to appear before it.

The board will be composed of Surgeons W. P. C. BARTON, J. A. KEARNEY, THOMAS DILLARD, W. S. W. RUSCHENBERGER, and WATERS SMITH.

U. S. FRIGATE MACEDONIAN,
Pensacola, Feb. 27, 1842.

We sail tomorrow on a cruise. We are daily looking for the Warren and Levant. The Warren sailed from Norfolk on the 18th ult. and is now forty days out. A small schooner sailed a few hours after her, over-hauled and left her hull down in a very short time. The schooner arrived here twenty days ago!

On the 21st inst. while furling sails, John Maguire, captain of the main-top, fell from the main-top-sail yard, his head striking on the edge of the spare main-top mast, and was dreadfully bruised and gashed; he broke his left arm and thigh in two places. He

lingered until 4 P. M., of the following day. The usual salute was not fired on the 22d, owing to the critical state of the unfortunate man.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Feb 25—Capt E V Sumner, 1st dragoons, Fuller's
26—Lieut C F Ruff, do Gadsby's
28—Capt S Ringgold, 3d Arty Fuller's
Major H K Craig, Ordnance, Gadsby's
Mar 1—Lieut J D Webster, Top Engrs Dr Lindsly's
4—Surgeon Gen T Lawson.

PASSENGERS.

SAVANNAH, Feb 28. per steamer W S Harney, from
Pilatka, Dr J R Conrad, of the army.

LETTERS ADVERTISED.

NORFOLK, March 1.
NAVY.—Commo ——— Jones, Lieut W S Swann,
Dr—Van Horn; P Mid W H Adams; Mid R A Knapp,
T A Patterson, Joseph Fry.
Unpaid letter Refused.—Portland, Me. Mar 2.

Communications.

THE LATE COL. CUMMINGS, U. S. A.

Intelligence having been received on the 18th February, 1842, at Fort Cross, E. F., of the death of Colonel ALEXANDER CUMMINGS, of the 4th regiment of U. S. infantry, we, the undersigned, being the officers stationed at that post, assembled, and passed the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That we have received with the profoundest grief the announcement of the demise of this most amiable and excellent officer, who has won the regard and esteem of all with whom he has been associated, in the course of a long life of eminent usefulness and honor. As a soldier he has ever been remarkable for his devoted patriotism, his professional zeal, and his unswerving and intrepid discharge of duty. His unblemished reputation and high and sterling qualities were calculated to impart a lustre to any profession.

His regiment will all receive these unwelcome tidings, with one feeling of sorrow for the loss we sustain in the death of a colonel, alike distinguished for the uprightness of his conduct, the purity of his motives, and the amenity of his manners, which endeared him to us by the chastest sentiments of respect, and which have embalmed his memory with lasting veneration in our hearts.

Resolved, That we tender to the afflicted widow and family of the deceased, our sincere condolence and sympathy, on the occurrence of this sad event, and that we will wear the customary badge of mourning on the arm and sword for thirty days.

Resolved, That Major STANIFORD, commanding this post, be requested to forward these resolutions to the widow of the deceased, to the editors of the Army and Navy Chronicle, and of the Jeffersonian at Watertown, New York, and the United States Gazette at Philadelphia.

T. STANIFORD, Maj. 4th infantry.

JOHN PAGE, Captain 4th infantry.
 BENJ. ALVORD, 1st Lieut. 4th infantry.
 HENRY PRINCE, 1st Lt. 4th infantry.
 H. H. STEINER, Ass't surgeon.
 E. G. ELLIOTT, 2d Lt. 4th infantry.
 H. D. WALLEN, 2d Lt. 4th infantry.
 FORT CROSS, E. F., February 18, 1842.

THE UNITED STATES' ARTILLERY.

To those who know any thing about the ARTILLERY CORPS of the United States, it will be unnecessary to say, that its present condition is lamentable. Its inability to perform its proper duties, and to comply with what would be expected, and required of it in time of war, is notorious. As one of the corps, the writer is concerned for—nay ashamed of—its inefficiency, and he therefore makes no apology for these remarks, or for offering a few hints, which, if adopted, will, it is believed, have a tendency to improve in some degree, this important branch of the public service.

Great advancement has been made in the *materiel* by the Ordnance Department. The *personnel* has not kept pace with it. But the reasons therefor are obvious.

Many of the Ordnance officers, originally selected on account of their respectable talents and known industry and intelligence, have exhibited that zeal and activity in their profession, which always result from extraordinary promotion, and from a knowledge of the fact that the Government expects the duties entrusted to them to be well performed, and that it can appreciate and is ready to reward meritorious services.

In 1832, the Ordnance Department received a powerful impulse; in 1837, it had an additional one, and from that year till the present time it has been cherished in every way by the executive and legislative branches of the government.

A board of officers, with a *carte blanche* as to means, and modes of acquiring useful information, was sent to Europe, in every part of which, and to every government of which, the several members of it were commended to the attention of the authorities and of our diplomatic agents. The benefits of their sojourn abroad are too well known to the army to need mention here. The report of the board as published in the documents of Congress—the late Ordnance manual, a most useful and creditable production—and many other things, show that those officers improved the opportunities afforded them, and are worthy of the trust confided to them. And how does all this disposition of the Government to foster the department affect its agents? Most undoubtedly in a favorable manner. The desire to improve and advance their particular branch is continually urging them to discover and invent what will be useful for the Government. All this is now adverted to with pride by the writer, and not with envious feelings.

But, on the other hand, what has been done for the Artillery since 1821? It set out with a *razed* or-

ganization, officered by persons who knew no more of science than was acquired from the practice of perhaps a field drill—without the means for arming and equipping a single company of horse-artillery, although the law fixing the establishment authorized the same. The practice of employing the several regiments as Infantry, in the field, in garrison, nay, every where, was persisted in until there could scarcely be found a soldier in the whole arm that could fire a 24-pounder, or make a stand of grape without the assistance of an officer!!!

Cadets, who, from the necessities of the case, acquired but a limited knowledge of Artillery while at the Academy, joined their regiments and (except those who were at the school of practice at Fort Monroe, in existence for a short time) found no opportunity for improvement, or advancement in their arm. This procedure on the part of the Government—this cruel neglect of its best interests, and of the Artillery corps, caused the officers to consider themselves mere Infantry officers, and too frequently they were indifferent ones of that useful arm. When experiments were made, the board to witness and direct them was composed of Engineer, Ordnance and of any other than Artillery officers! What inducements, it is asked, were there—are there now—to acquire a knowledge of their art, theoretically even? So much is expected of persons now, that it is natural to learn what will probably be called into play first, and a knowledge of which will be most useful, and redound most to the credit of the possessor. Even the cavalry, the arm for which there is comparatively little use in this country, has been considered of sufficient importance, to send six of its officers to France, to glean useful information. Of this the writer does not complain; but he does—and rightly too—that the Artillery, the most important branch of the army, considering the extent of our sea-coast and the northern frontier, has been neglected in this, as well as in every other respect.

This assertion will not be considered too broad when it is recollected that until the publication of Captain Anderson's book on Artillery, there was no prescribed drill for field batteries; and that, at this late day, there is none for sea coast batteries!!!

The writer asserts with confidence, and every one will admit, that there is necessity for improvement which will not allow a moment's delay. The formation and instruction of a corps of Artillery is not the work of a day or of a month; but years are required to put it in an efficient condition, which will render it worthy of support, and useful to the nation.

With the above remarks, the writer submits, with diffidence, the following suggestions for the consideration of those, who ought not only to be interested in this subject, but who are responsible to the country and the army for the efficiency of the ARTILLERY CORPS:—

1. A separate depot and recruiting establishment

is needed for the Artillery. Artillery officers should recruit exclusively for their regiments, and the recruits should be instructed at a school of practice, if you please, in the harbor of New York, whence they could be easily sent to regiments. To this school the Artillery graduates might be sent, and kept there until they have acquired a practical knowledge of their arm, including the use of furnaces for heating shot, the preparation of ammunition, the manœuvres for mounting and dismounting guns *without the assistance of an Ordnance officer, &c. &c.*

2. Four officers, preferably eight, one or two from each regiment, should be sent abroad to examine, and acquire a knowledge of, the various systems of Artillery practised in Europe. They should be required to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with all the latest improvements, to procure the best treatises on artillery and pyrotechny, and to select books, models, &c. for the formation of regimental libraries. In selecting officers for this important service, regard should be had to their standing in the army, their ability to acquire and impart information, and their intention to make arms their profession for life.

3. The establishment of a school of practice at some large fort, or of minor schools for each regiment, at head quarters; such establishments to be under the direction, so far as *instruction* is concerned, of an officer in every way qualified for the situation, regardless of the rank of officers composing the garrison. This last suggestion will be objected to; but it is idle to expect one to impart what he does not know himself; and it will not be denied that many of the commanders of forts and detachments are not equal to this task of instruction. This course, then, is *necessary*; and for the information of those who are not acquainted with the fact, it may be well to state that PETER THE GREAT deigned to learn from his inferiors and subjects what he was ignorant of himself; and to do so, *he commenced at the commencement.*

4. An inspector general of Artillery is needed. And he should be an officer whose knowledge of Artillery is extensive, and whose standard of attainments is high. He should possess industry and zeal—and what is worth more than all, energy to exact of the Artillery officers and men a knowledge of their duties, and moral courage to report such as have not the pride or ability to acquire it.

5. A number of Artillery officers should be annually detailed for service at the Arsenal of construction with a view to acquire a knowledge of the *materiel* that would enable the corps to act effectively under every circumstance of the service, without the assistance of Ordnance officers or men—assistance which cannot be at hand, and which ought to be within the Artillery corps itself. Every workman ought to be able to repair his own tools.

This subject, and others connected with it, may be further pursued hereafter.

THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.

It appears to be conceded by the majority, that the navy of the United States should, in these piping times of peace, be increased; those whose judgments in these matters are indisputable, and of whose penetration and foresight we have already benefitted, predict that the next war this country is engaged in, will be principally a naval one, and hence the anxiety of almost every class, who have their country's welfare at heart, to see our gallant navy on a scale commensurate with our wants, both in regard to our increasing commerce and to be prepared to take that position, in the event of difficulties, which our standing among nations warrants, and our honor demands. Latterly the attention of government has been drawn to this arm of national defence, and to every branch connected with it, with an earnestness that seems to promise a future success. It appears also, that considerable difficulty is met at this present time in procuring seamen to man our vessels; but on this head no real apprehensions ought to exist, for in the event of war thousands would join the flag, from love of country,—more from necessity, being out of employ in the merchant service—and yet more which the inducement of a bounty would bring forward. We have also the apprentice system which is in full success and rapidly increasing; and under the present very judicious management cannot fail of soon producing a large number of expert and excellent seamen, and such as can always be depended upon.—But it is not by seamen alone by which our navy must be manned; a large portion of landsmen is required; if not immediately so useful or expert as the more experienced sailor, a very little time suffices to rub off the rust with which a landsman is enveloped, and they soon learn to handle a gun (if not a marlinspike) with the same dexterity and skill as Jack himself, and become good man-of-wars-man.

The navy is popular, and in any emergency will always secure men; and I again assert that no apprehensions ought to be entertained on that score. But with the marines the case is widely different; this class of soldiers has been found indispensable on ship-board, for preserving discipline and subordination, as well to assist in working the vessel as fighting her. The number required on board is as one to each gun, and there is not at present a sufficient number of men in the corps, to supply the vessels now in commission, in consequence of which, a bill has been brought before Congress for the purpose of increasing this arm of the service, of which we would (advisedly) speak. The number of men actually required for our ships, and for the protection of the immense amount of property in our navy yards, was estimated to be 3,000. This was curtailed by the commanding officer of the corps, and in his letter to the Secretary of the Navy, he modestly asks for an increase of 2,000; and when the bill is presented it is further reduced to 1,000 privates; but the features of

the bill in regard to the commissioned officers remain the same.

In our various navy yards, there is not a sufficient number of sentinels to guard the public property, and the consequence is, a citizen watch has to be maintained, at an expense of \$1.75 each per diem. The soldier's pay is \$7, per month, and he is sworn to do his duty; while the watch perform theirs as they please. This needs no comment, it speaks for itself. The bill originally intended, with the exception of the privates, reads as follows.

"*Be it enacted, &c.* That from and after the passage of this act, the Marine Corps shall be augmented by the appointment of one brigadier general, seven captains, ten first lieutenants, ten second lieutenants, six sergeant majors, six quartermaster sergeants, eighty sergeants, eighty corporals, thirty drummers, thirty fliers, and one thousand privates."

The bill presented to Congress asks for ten captains, and strikes out the sergeant majors, quartermaster sergeants, twenty sergeants, and twenty corporals. Thus it appears, that to make room for *three extra captains*, the non-commissioned staff of the would-be brigade is sacrificed. This is certainly very military, and will tend greatly to the organization and good discipline of the future brigade. I mean the substitution of the *three captains*. Is it possible, that the worthy commander of the marines and some of his coadjutors, care for the increase of the Corps, but to advance them to the rank of general and captains, without regarding in the least the actual wants of the service in detail? else, by whose order was this alteration made?

Let us now proceed briefly to inquire of how much importance (if any) the non-commissioned staff is to the organization of the brigade.

It is well known that at each of the five navy yards, the services of a non-commissioned officer are necessary to perform the duties of sergeant-major; and in fact the principal duties of the adjutant devolve on him; under his immediate direction the whole routine of the field police and internal regulations is carried on; he is referred to on every occasion, his connexion with the officers is close, and the rank of sub-adjutant, with an increase of pay, would be more like *justice* than to require a sergeant to perform those duties, without any emolument.

"*And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and is hereby, authorized to appoint five assistant quarter masters, to be taken from the captains or subalterns of the line," &c.

We see by the above, that assistant quarter masters are necessary; but not quartermaster-sergeants. Now I would ask, who actually performs the drudgery of those duties? Certainly not the quarter master himself; for there is scarcely one in ten in either the army or marine corps, who knows any thing about the business; a smart non-commissioned officer, who is a good clerk, is found, if possible, who performs the duties of the office, prepares the documents, as-

sues the clothing, and in short conducts the entire business of the department—the quarter master very seldom troubling himself any further than to put his signature to the papers when finished; and therefore it is evident that the increase of sergeant majors and quartermaster sergeants is of more real importance to the service than the appointment of as many commissioned officers, saying nothing in regard to the injustice of making men perform services for which they receive no equivalent.

In the original Bill, for the increase of the army, some few years since, it was strongly recommended by *military men*, that one sergeant major and one quartermaster sergeant should be appointed to each company of 100 men; but the present bill makes no provision of this kind, and leaves the non-commissioned staff of a brigade on the same footing as when the corps numbered but 700.

If this corps be merely for sea service, and were intended to operate on land in conjunction with other forces, there is no necessity (in fact it would be better without) for any commissioned officers at all. Let them be transferred to the army, and the guards be commanded by naval officers, (which in truth they generally are when at sea) appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, who shall be their head and chief; and the men, when on shore, rationed by the pursers of the yards, who shall have power to contract for their clothing, &c. But, if they are expected to act on shore as well as on ship board, in Heaven's name let there be some little *military tact* shown in their organization.

OBSERVER.

Intelligence.

From the National Intelligencer.

AFFAIRS IN FLORIDA.

When, a few days ago, we copied from the Savannah Georgian a letter from its Florida correspondent, we had some doubts, which we expressed, without having any guess as to the author, whether full and entire credit was due to his wholesale imputations upon the conduct of affairs in that distant Territory. In the "Independent" of yesterday we find an article on that subject, for which we feel satisfied the editors have sufficient authority, (or it would not have appeared in that paper;) and we transfer it therefore to our columns, omitting only a passage which is not material to a proper understanding of the merits of the late publication in the Georgian, so far as depends on the authority on which it rests.

FROM THE "INDEPENDENT" OF YESTERDAY.

"We copied into our last, but without space for comment, a specious, but very dishonest communication from St. Augustine, which appeared, originally, in the Savannah [Georgian,] and has been adopted into various respectable prints. It is signed T. S. B. We believe we are in possession of its history, which is briefly this:

Thompson S. Brown was a patriot and leader in the Canadian disturbances. Upon the defeat at Prescott, he deserted the deluded men whom he had involved in that unhappy cause, and came to Washington in search of that public employment which such practices against the peace of the country merited.—

* * * So Mr. Brown was despatched to Florida, to negotiate a universal peace. Arriving at Tampa Bay, attended by some Spanish half-breeds picked up at St. Augustine, he instantly began to interfere with the Indians, with whom General Armisted was treating there. His half-breeds as quickly began to set up claims to many of the negroes of the Indians whom they saw there. The Indians, alarmed at this, began to give signs of breaking off all treaty, and returning to their strongholds. To prevent any further mischief, General Armisted very properly laid hands upon Mr. Brown and his fellow negotiators, put them under guard, and sent them back to St. Augustine, with, doubtless, some slight intimations not to show themselves again in his quarter.

This is the sort of knowledge of Florida and the Florida war, upon which this worthy pacificator writes so confidently. He has been from St. Augustine to Tampa Bay, through a country which they who travel in small parties don't stop to make many geographical discoveries in. His second exploration, when he was marched back by the same route, under guard, served, no doubt, to perfect his acquaintance with Florida, the Indians, and the army.

Restored, after these researches, to the friendly shelter of St. Augustine, he has from that point made, by the aid of fancy, excursions over the whole peninsula, with which he has no other acquaintance. The result of his discoveries is communicated to the public in such letters as the one in question.

Meantime, to alleviate his labors of survey and of diplomacy, he keeps up a friendly correspondence with the Secretary of War and the Treasury office, claiming from the latter allowances for large losses in his "peninsular campaign," and urging upon the former a renewal of his appointment as a commissioner. To accomplish the latter object, it is his business to make the army appear as inefficient as possible.

What we thus state, we have collected from sources of information entirely decisive."

Upon the subject of Indians hostilities and murders in Florida, however, we have developments yet more extraordinary than those commented upon above.

The latest number of the St. Augustine "News" (of the 26th ultimo) contains a communication, avouched by the editor to be from a respectable source, which invites public attention to intelligence so atrocious in its nature as hardly to admit of belief. It states that there have existed, and perhaps now exist, a band, or bands of *white men*, who carry on a system of predatory and murderous warfare in the disguise of Indians, not only as respects their costume, moccasins and all, but also causing their very persons to represent the "cunning and wily red man of the forest." And such a band, according to this writer, were the perpetrators of an attack made on the 2d of January last, in the neighborhood of Welaunee, in Middle Florida, on some wagons, which were robbed of a quantity of merchandise, their drivers having escaped death by the appearance of a white man, whom the assailants pursued and shot at, but who also happily escaped.

Almost incredible and startling as this intelligence may appear to be, it is not the first time we have seen it suggested that some of the depredations in Florida, during the prevalence of hostilities in that unhappy country, if not committed, have been instigated by a white banditti, who, being intent on plunder, in their predatory attacks on unprotected citizens have shown themselves utterly reckless of all the claims of humanity. But we have felt an unwillingness to yield to such intimations any degree of credence. Nor do we yet pretend to be fully satisfied that these representations have a sure foundation in truth. The writer of the communication above referred to, however, presents such an array of circumstantial evidence to sustain the ground assumed by him, especially as regards the affair near Welaunee,

that we see no impropriety in giving publicity to that part of his statement which justifies the belief that this outrage was not the work of Indians, as was charged at the time of its occurrence. After advertising to the time and manner of the robbery, the writer says:

"We have the best authority for saying that the pursuit was prompt and energetic. One party, which, went out from Ft. Many, near or on the river St. Marks, and perhaps the less remote post from the scene of depredation, encamped on the night of the 3d adjacent to the natural bridge of that stream. On the morning of the 4th it moved towards the point where the attack and robbery took place, making a close search on both sides of the road for the trail, but found no sign of Indians; and it encamped near Lake Pohd. The next day the country on the east and west sides of the road was examined by the two different parties, and a trail discovered, which was supposed to have been made by a party of 14 Indians, having crossed the St. Marks about two miles above the natural bridge, (each Indian making a separate and very indistinct trail.) It was followed and was found to have crossed the Pine Hook road, about five miles below Camp Brennen in a southeasterly direction; was formed, as was believed by not exceeding twenty Indians, and it had every appearance of being not more than two days old. And hence, and from other circumstances there was no doubt in the minds of many intelligent persons, of the existence of a party of Indians in the region of Middle Florida, ever ready, as all will that relentless people are, when engaged in war, to murder, rob, and commit every other outrage of savage life."

"On the 3d February a woman, whose husband had resided some time before at Tampa Bay, arrived at that place from Port Leon, via Cedar Keys. She appeared desirous to make some arrangements for the return of her husband and herself, who had been living in Middle Florida. She left for Port Leon, it being understood that she was going for her husband.—A day or two after her departure a schooner came in direct from Port Leon, by which information was received that the civil officers were in search of this woman's husband as a participator or principal in the attack and robbery of the wagons on the 2d of January not far from Welaunee, or on the Magnolia road. Suspicion was soon afloat that her visit to Tampa was for some other object than the one assigned. On the 8th, affidavit was made as to certain facts connected with the departure, &c., of the woman from Port Leon, upon which a search warrant was issued and executed: the result of which was the discovery of various articles of merchandise, believed to be a part of the contents of the robbed wagons. Another affidavit was made on the 9th, that the woman had offered for sale at Tampa a quantity of dry goods, consisting of shawls, capes, gloves, suspenders, overcoats, roundabouts, remnants of vesting, penknives, &c.; whereupon an officer, clothed with authority to apprehend, was sent by the first opportunity in pursuit, hoping that she would not have found a conveyance from Cedar Keys; but on his arrival he found that the bird had flown, she having left for Port Leon a few days before. He, however, left that place the afternoon of the 11th, having arrived in the morning of that day."

FLORIDA.

Resolutions respecting Col. W. J. Worth.

Whereas, in the contest with a subtle and treacherous foe, difficulties and discouragements have arisen, of a character which could be equalled in a conflict with no other enemy, and have constantly retarded the most able, active, and energetic exertions to bring it to a close:

And whereas, it is impossible for those who have not witnessed the extent of the embarrassments which thus burden and depress a commander, charged with

these heavy responsibilities, to appreciate the obstacles by which he is thus surrounded—

Resolved, therefore, That the Senate and House of Representatives of Florida, deeply impressed with a sense of the arduous duties of the present commander-in-chief, Col. W. J. Worth, view with admiration and satisfaction the skill and ability with which he has conducted the military operations entrusted to his charge.

Resolved, That amidst the occasional scenes of murderous barbarity which characterize an enemy, to whom the attributes of mercy and humanity are utterly unknown, he has manifested that zealous and anxious attention and devotion to the interests of the country, which merit our highest regard, and entitle him to the thanks and applause of the nation.

Resolved, That these resolutions be signed by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, and that a copy thereof be transmitted to Colonel Worth, and to the Secretary of War.

WM. H. BROCKENBROUGH,

President of the Senate.

N. W. WALKER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES transmitted to the House on Tuesday, the following Messages in relation to the state of the Treasury, and the arrest of an individual suspected in being concerned in the destruction of the steamer Caroline.

WASHINGTON, March 8, 1842.

To the House of Representatives :

Resolved, That in the success which has resulted from the exertion of this gallant officer, in ridding our country of nearly seven hundred of her murderous foes, our Government and people have ample proof of the high qualifications which fit him for the important trust assigned him, and a sure guarantee for all that can hereafter be accomplished by unremitting effort and perseverance.

I feel it to be my duty to invite your attention to the accompanying communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, in relation to the probable demands which will be made upon the Treasury the present quarter. It will be seen that, without arresting the requisitions which will be made by the War and Navy Departments for the months of March, April, and May, there will be an unprovided for deficit of upwards of three millions.

I cannot bring myself, however, to believe that it will enter into the view of any department of the Government to arrest works of defence now in progress of completion, or vessels under construction or preparation for sea. Having due regard to the unsettled condition of our foreign relations, and the exposed situation of our inland and maritime frontier, I should feel myself wanting in my duty to the country, if I could hesitate in urging upon Congress, all necessary appropriations for placing it in an attitude of strength and security. Such recommendation, however, has heretofore been made, in full reliance as well on Congress as on the well known patriotism of the people, their high sense of national honor, and their determination to defend our soil from the possibility, however remote, of a hostile invasion.

The diminution in the revenue, arising from the great diminution of duties under what is commonly called the Compromise Act, necessarily involves the Treasury in embarrassments, which have been for some years palliated by the temporary expedient of issuing Treasury notes—an expedient which, affording no permanent relief, has imposed upon Congress, from time to time, the necessity of replacing the old by a new issue. The amount outstanding on the 4th of March, 1840, varies in no great degree from the

amount which will be outstanding on the first of January next; while in the interim the new issues are rendered equivalent to the redemption of the old, and at the end of the fiscal year, leave an augmented pressure on the finances by the accumulation of interest.

The contemplated revision of the tariff of duties may, and doubtless will, lead in the end to a relief of the Treasury from these constantly recurring embarrassments; but it must be obvious that time will be necessary to realize the full anticipations of financial benefit from any modification of the tariff laws. In the mean time, I submit to Congress the suggestions made by the Secretary, and invite its prompt and speedy action.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, March 8, 1842.

To the House of Representatives :

In my message of the 7th December I suggested to Congress the propriety, and, in some degree, the necessity, of making proper provisions by law, within the pale of the Constitution, for the removal, at their commencement, and at the option of the party, of all such cases as might arise in State courts, involving national questions touching the faithful observance and discharge of the international obligations of the United States, from such State tribunal to the Federal Judiciary. I am urged to repeat, at this time, this recommendation, by the receipt of intelligence, upon which I can rely, that a subject of Great Britain, residing in Upper Canada, has been arrested upon a charge of connexion with the expedition fitted out by the Canadian authorities by which the "Caroline" was destroyed, and will, in all probability, be subjected to trial in the State courts of New York. It is doubtful whether, in this state of things, should his discharge be demanded by the British Government, this Government is invested with any control over the subject until the case shall have reached the court of final resort of the State of New York, and been decided in that court. And although such delay ought not, in a national point of view, to give cause of umbrage to Great Britain, yet the prompt and instant rendering of justice to foreign nations should be placed among our highest duties. I cannot, therefore, in consideration of what properly becomes the United States, and in anticipation of any demand from a foreign Government for the discharge of one of its subjects, forego the duty of repeating my recommendation to Congress for the immediate adoption of some suitable legislative provision on this subject.

JOHN TYLER.

From the New York Express.

NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES.

The United States frigate Savannah, on the stocks at the navy yard, Brooklyn, is now undergoing repairs, and preparations are about to be made for launching her. This a first class frigate, and will, it is anticipated, prove herself an ornament to American naval architecture.

The brig of war Dolphin, belonging to the Home Squadron, will sail in a few days on a cruise, to assist vessels in distress off the coast.

There is a fine brig of war on the stocks, at the Brooklyn navy yard, which will be ready for sea in the ensuing spring.

The United States steamer Missouri will make a trial trip down the bay in the course of the week.—Her engine has already been tried, as she lays alongside the wharf, and found to answer all expectations.

The sloop of war Ontario will sail shortly for New Orleans, to become the Receiving Ship of that station.

The following is a list of vessels in the Navy of the United States, their rate, place where built, situation and stations.

VESSELS OF WAR OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

SHIPS OF THE LINE.			
Name.	Rate.	Built.	Where.
Pennsylvania	120	1837	Rec. ship at Norfolk
Franklin	74	1815	New York
Washington	74	1816	New York
Columbus	74	1819	Rec. ship at Boston
Ohio	74	1820	Boston
North Carolina	74	1820	Rec. ship at N Y
Delaware	74	1820	Coast of Brazil
Alabama	74	—	Portsmouth, N H
Vermont	74	—	Boston
Virginia	74	—	Boston
New York	74	—	Norfolk
Independence (razee)	54	1814	Home Squadron

FRIGATES—FIRST CLASS.			
United States	44	1797	Pacific
Constitution	44	1797	Norfolk
Java	44	1814	Norfolk
Potomac	44	1821	Coast of Brazil
Brandywine	44	1825	Mediterranean
Hudson	44	1826	New York
Columbia	44	1836	Home Squadron
Congress	44	1841	Portsmouth, N H
Santee	44	—	Portsmouth, N H
Cumberland	44	—	Boston
Sabine	44	—	New York
Savannah	44	—	New York
Raritan	44	—	Philadelphia
St. Lawrence	44	—	Norfolk

FRIGATES—SECOND CLASS.			
Constellation	36	1797	East Indies
Macedonian	36	1836	West Indies

SLOOPS OF WAR—FIRST CLASS.			
John Adams	20	1820	For coast of Brazil
Boston	20	1825	East Indies
Vincennes	20	1826	Exploring Exped'n
Warren	20	1826	West Indies
Falmouth	20	1827	Home Squadron
Fairfield	20	1828	Mediterranean
Vandalia	20	1828	Home Squadron
St. Louis	20	1828	Pacific
Concord	20	1828	Coast of Brazil
Cyane	20	1837	Pacific
Levant	20	1837	West Indies

SLOOPS OF WAR—SECOND CLASS.			
Ontario	18	1813	New Orleans
Peacock	18	1813	Expl'g Exped'n

SLOOPS OF WAR—THIRD CLASS.			
Decatur	16	1839	Coast of Brazil
Preble	16	1839	Mediterranean
Yorktown	16	1839	Pacific
Marion	16	1839	Coast of Brazil
Dale	16	1839	Pacific

BRIGS.			
New Brig	—	—	New York
Dolphin	10	1836	Home Squadron
Porpoise	10	1836	Expl'g Exped'n
Pioneer	—	1836	Baltimore
Consort	—	1836	Portland, Maine
Boxer	10	1831	New York

SCHOONERS.			
Grampus	10	1821	Home Squadron
Shark	10	1821	Pacific
Enterprise	10	1831	Coast of Brazil
Experiment	—	1831	Philadelphia
Flirt	—	—	Coast of Florida
Wave	—	—	Coast of Florida
Otsego	—	—	Coast of Florida
Phoenix	—	—	Coast of Florida
Flying Fish	—	—	Tender to ExpEx

STEAMERS.			
Fulton	4	1837	Atlantic Coast

Poinsett	—	—	Norfolk
Mississippi	*10	1841	Home Squadron
Missouri	*10	1841	Home Squadron

STORE SHIPS.			
Relief	6	1836	Pacific
Erie	8	1813	Boston
Lexington	8	1815	Norfolk

*Paixhan guns.

These vessels, for the most part, carry more guns than their rate would lead the reader to suppose.—The line of battle ships, rated 74, mount from 80 to 110 guns. The only three-decker in the navy, the Pennsylvania, mounts 140 guns. The frigates of the first class mount from 54 to 64 guns. The frigates of the second class mount 48 guns. The sloops of war of the first class mount, with two exceptions, 24 guns. The two exceptions are the Cyane and Levant. These vessels mount no more than the number they are rated. The sloops of the second class mount 22 guns; and those of the third class mount the number of guns that they are rated. The brigs and schooners, rated 10, mount from 12 to 14 guns, and those marked without any rate, mount from 1 to 6. The two small steamers mount 4 guns, and the Missouri and Mississippi each mount 8 sixty-eight pounders on their quarter decks, and 2 one hundred and twenty pounders forward, all Paixhan guns. Two of the store ships mount 8, and the third 6 guns.

Persons unacquainted with naval affairs would most probably imagine, from the rates, that there were actually but 2044 guns in our navy, whereas there are about double that number.

We learn that the Missouri ran from Staten Island dock to the Battery, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles, in 26 minutes, against an ebb tide of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Her average speed during the trip, by the log, was $12\frac{1}{2}$ knots, and her average pressure of steam $11\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. Her maximum revolutions were $17\frac{1}{2}$ with 13 pounds pressure—wheels set at 28 feet. Consumption of fuel, one ton per hour. So says the *New York Sun*.

Military Intelligence.

Recruiting Service.—Fort Wood, on Bedlow's island, New York harbor, having been turned over to the Engineer department for repairs, the depot for recruits has been transferred to Fort Columbus, Governor's island.

An additional detail has been ordered, of one 1st Lieutenant from the 1st 2d and 3d regiments of artillery, and a Captain from the 4th regiment artillery, who will report in person, without delay, to the Sup't of Recruiting service at New York.

Medical Staff.—Asst Sur S P Moore, assigned to duty under Surgeon Mower, at New York.

1st Dragoons.—Leave of absence to Lieut C F Ruff extended 3 months.

1st Infantry.—A detachment of 339 recruits has been ordered from New York, via New Orleans and Jefferson Barracks to be distributed as follows:

Fort Crawford, Co's A, B, E, F,	174
Snelling, Co's D, G, H,	126
Winnebago, Co I	13
Camp Atkinson, Co K	26, 339

Lieut Bomford, 8th infy, and an officer of the 2d art'y, will accompany the detachment.

NAVY.

Mar. ORDERS.

- 1—Lieut W D Porter, det'd from steamer Miss'pi. Mid J S Maury, steamer Mississippi.
 - Master R H Nichols, det'd from navy yard N York.
 - 3—Lieut J E Brown, permission to return to the U S from the Pacific.
- P Mid W S Ringgold, brig Boxer, as acting master.

Carpenter John Cahill, rec ship, Norfolk.
 5—Lieut A A Holcomb, ship Independence.
 Chaplain T R Lambert, furlough 12 months.
 Mid J H Somerville, brig Dolphin, New York.
 Mid E H Scovill, do do

MARINE CORPS.

A Marine General Court Martial was ordered to convene at the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y., for the trial of such persons as may be brought before it. The court is composed of the following officers: Major John Harris, President; Captains T. S. English, B. Macomber, R. Douglas, First Lieuts. N. S. Waldron, F. B. McNeil, and second Lieut. W. L. Shuttleworth, members; Second Lieut. J. S. Devlin, Judge Advocate.

Feb. 11—Second Lieut. J. S. Devlin, ordered to report to Commo. Stewart, as the 2d Marine officer of the guard of the razee Independence, at New York.

Feb. 23—Second Lieut. J. C. Grayson, ordered to report to Commo Downes, as the Marine officer of the guard of the Receiving ship Columbus, at Boston.

Second Lieut. A. S. Taylor, ordered as the Marine officer of the guard of the Receiving ship Pennsylvania, at Norfolk.

March 3—Second Lieut. W. L. Shuttleworth, ordered to report to Commo. Stewart, as the Marine officer of the guard of the steamer Missouri, at New York.

First Lieut. E. L. West, ordered to report to Commo. Shubrick, as the Marine officer of the guard of the sloop Vandalia, at Norfolk.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

List of the officers in the U. S. Revenue Cutter service, and their stations, corrected to the 1st March, 1842.

CAPTAINS	DATE OF COMMISSION	HOW EMPLOYED
John A. Webster,	22 Nov 1819	Com'g Taney
Winslow Foster,	22 Mar 1821	Waiting orders
Henry D. Hunter,	15 Nov 1824	Com'g Wolcott
William W. Polk,	25 July 1825	Waiting orders
Nicholas Bicker,	29 Aug 1828	On leave
Andrew Mather,	4 April 1829	Com'g Vigilant
Robert Day,	2 June 1832	Com'g Jackson
Ezekiel Jones,	4 Jan 1833	On leave
Thos. C. Rudolph,	2 June 1834	Waiting orders
Caleb Currier,	20 April 1838	Com'g Crawford
Green Walden,	21 Nov 1838	" Morris
Henry B. Nones,	14 Dec 1838	" Woodbury
Josiah Sturgis,	14 Dec 1838	" Hamilton
Henry Prince, jr.	24 Oct 1839	Sup'g new cutter
John Whitcomb,	9 Dec 1839	Com'g Alert
Gilbert Knapp,	15 Mar 1841	" Erie
L. C. Fatio,	12 May 1841	On leave
Michael Conner,	19 Aug 1842	Waiting orders
Alex. V Fraser,	1 Feb 1842	Com'g Ewing

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.

Richard Evans,	1 Jan 1833	Taney
Nap. L. Coste,	4 do	do Rev boat Key West
W. B. Whitehead,	11 June 1834	Sick
Gay Moore,	10 Feb 1836	Wai'g orders, Balt
Levi C. Harby,	5 July 1836	Rev boat St. Marys
John J. Nimmo,	23 April 1838	Woodbury
Douglas Ottinger,	6 Aug 1838	Erie
Charles Grover,	6 do	do Jackson
Thomas Sands,	21 Nov 1838	Vigilant
Thomas Stoddard,	14 Dec 1838	Hamilton
Francis Martin,	24 July 1839	Crawford
Stephen Cornell,	24 Oct 1839	Waiting orders
Joseph A. Noyes,	24 do	do Alert
Peter Storer,	9 Dec 1839	Duane
John McGowan,	17 Feb 1841	Wolcott
James H. Roach,	17 do	do Morris
Henry Drake,	1 Feb 1842	Ewing

SECOND LIEUTENANTS.

Stephen Thatcher,	18 Jan 1831	Jackson
George Clarke,	18 Feb 1836	Ewing

John B. Fulton,	6 Aug 1838	Ewing
George Berryman,	6 do	do Erie
Arnold Burrough,	14 Dec 1838	Morris
Beverly Digges,	14 do	do Taney
Supply C. Foss,	29 April 1839	Wolcott
J. J. Morrison,	24 July 1839	Crawford
Osmond Peters,	24 do	do Woodbury
Blyden Hedge,	24 Oct 1839	Crawford
J. S. S. Chaddock,	24 do	do Jackson
Caleb Prouty,	9 Dec 1839	Hamilton
Joseph Amazeen,	9 do	do Jackson
William Norris,	17 Feb 1841	Vigilant
John Faunce,	5 June 1841	Woodbury

THIRD LIEUTENANTS.

H. H. Greene,	19 Mar 1838	Alert
John L. Prouty,	26 Nov 1838	Hamilton
William Pease,	2 Mar 1839	Taney
Chas. W. Bennett,	10 April 1839	Wolcott
John L. Stull,	7 June 1839	Ewing
Edward Smoot,	24 July 1839	Duane
Win. W. Wilson,	24 do	do Woodbury
J. G. Breshwood,	24 Oct 1839	Ewing
Nicholas Austin,	24 do	do Vigilant
John M. Jones,	16 Dec 1839	Morris
George Hayes, jr.	17 Feb 1841	Alert
James H. Jones,	17 do	do Wolcott
Robt. K. Hudgins,	24 Feb 1842	Taney

STATIONS OF THE CUTTERS.

Alert,	Capt. Whitcomb,	Eastport, Maine.
Morris,	Capt. Walden,	Portland, Maine.
Hamilton,	Capt. Sturgis,	Boston, Mass.
Vigilant,	Capt. Mather,	Newport, R. I.
Wolcott,	Capt. Hunter,	Delaware.
Ewing,	Capt. Frazer,	New York.
Woodbury,	Capt. Nones,	New Orleans.
Taney,	Capt. Webster,	Norfolk, Va.
Crawford,	Capt. Currier,	Savannah.
Duane,	Lt. Storer,	Mobile.
Jackson,	Capt. Day,	Mobile.
Erie,	Capt. Knapp,	Erie.

Naval Intelligence.

U. S. VESSELS OF WAR REPORTED.

HOME SQUADRON.—Ship Falmouth, Comm'r McIntosh, left Norfolk on Wednesday 22d inst, and anchored in Hampton roads.

PACIFIC SQUADRON.—Ship Yorktown, Capt Aulick, sailed from Mazatlan, Dec 19, for San Blas and Valparaiso.

MARRIAGE.

At Washington on the 3d inst by the Rev Mr Higbee, J BAYARD H SMITH, to HENRIETTA E, second daughter of the late Commodore JOHN D HENLEY, U S navy.

DEATH.

At his residence in Crawford county, Arkansas, on the morning of the 8th Feb, after a very short illness of quinsy, Col WHARTON RECTOR, Paymaster U S army, in the 42d year of his age. He was a native of Virginia, but emigrated when young to St Louis, Mo, where he married, and from whence he emigrated to Arkansas with his family, in 1827. His remains were interred with military honors, under the superintendence of Maj LEAR, commanding at Fort Smith.

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